

**In the Claims** (Clean Copy as Amended)

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1. (Twice Amended) A method for producing an aromatic compound isomer substituted with alkyl group(s) and/or halogen atom(s), through adsorptive separation by the use of a zeolite-containing adsorbent and a desorbent, wherein the desorbent is, after having been processed for removing impurities selected from the group consisting of water, hydrochloric acid, phenols, dimers of aromatic compounds, unsaturated hydrocarbon-containing compounds and oxygen-containing compounds from it by a method selected from distillation, purging, or absorption to a solid absorbent to achieve a level below 1,000 ppm by weight, supplied to the adsorptive separation step.

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